

WASHINGTON – Congressman Spencer Bachus (AL-6) announced that the Jimmie Hale Mission in Birmingham has formally been awarded a \$245,000 grant to assist with the construction of their new education and administration building.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has approved the grant. Bachus secured the funds in an FY08 congressional appropriations bill.

The building, which is nearing completion, will provide homeless citizens with a computer-based learning center where education, job readiness, and life skills can be taught.

Congressman Bachus said, “The Jimmie Hale Mission has given thousands of men, women, and children in the Birmingham area shelter from the storms and afflictions we all face in this life. It is truly a place where lives are changed.”

Executive Director Tony Cooper said, “Education and employment are key answers to helping people remove themselves from the rolls of the homeless, and this will allow us to provide a holistic approach. We thank Congressman Bachus for the major part he played in obtaining this assistance.”

The mission has doubled its capacity since moving to the site of the former Thomas School.